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# FACTS

ABOUT THE IRON ORE DEPOSITS  
of BRITISH COLUMBIA  
INCLUDING VANCOUVER ISLAND



COMPILED FROM ABSOLUTELY AUTHORITATIVE  
SOURCES BY  
THE CENTRAL IRON COMMITTEE  
OF VANCOUVER ISLAND

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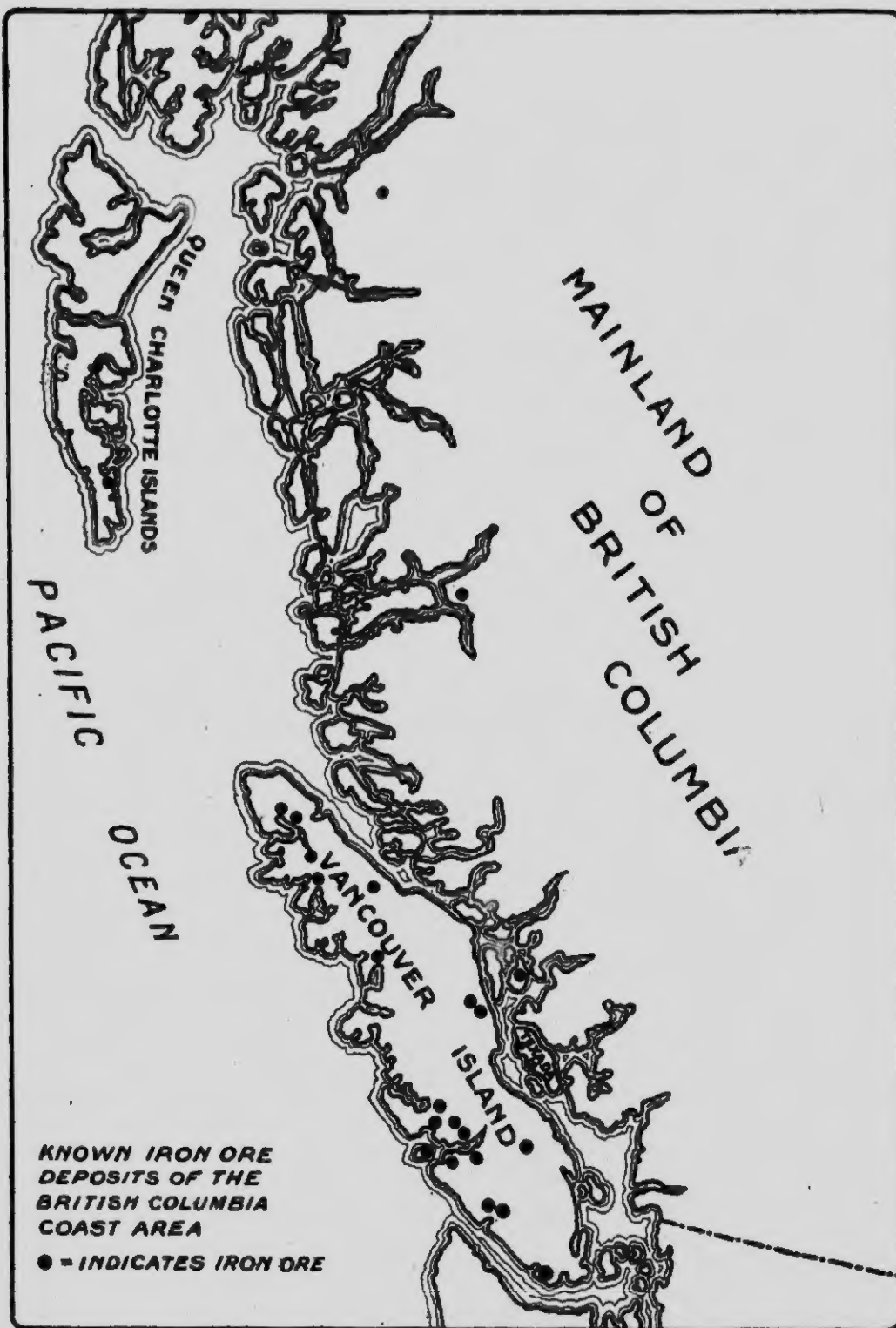
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Victoria, B. C.,

February 21st, 1918.

To the Chairman and Members,  
Central Iron Committee,

Victoria, B. C.

Gentlemen:—

Your Sub-Committee on Data beg to herewith submit the results of their labors to date.

The statements contained in the report are all taken from very high authorities, as a glance at the list will indicate.

The question is frequently asked: "Is there sufficient raw material in British Columbia to warrant an attempt to establish an iron and steel industry on any large scale?"

Your Committee has tried to answer this question in a most direct and positive manner.—"Yes."

No attempt has been made at consecutive narrative, or extensive extracts from the various authorities.

We know that much more might have been said had time permitted a more extended study of the information available.

Trusting that the brief outline presented will be found sufficient for present purposes, we are,

Respectfully,

Committee on Data,

J. F. BLEDSOE, M.E. (Chairman.)

C. L. ARMSTRONG,

T. J. GOODLAKE,

THOMAS WALKER.

## AUTHORITIES REFERRED TO

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**Clapp, C. H.**—Department of Mines, Geological Survey, Canada. "Iron on Southern Vancouver Island." Summary report, 1909.

**Carmichael, H.**—Former Provincial Assayer, British Columbia.

**Dawson, Dr.**—Former Head Canadian Geological Survey.

**Hayes, C. W.**—U. S. Geological Survey, "Bulletin No. 39A."

**Leith, C. K.**—U. S. Geological Survey, "Bulletin No. 285."

**Lindeman, Einar**—Department of Mines, Geological Survey, Canada, "Iron Ore Deposits of Vancouver and Texada Islands."

**McConnell, R. C.**—Department of Mines, Geological Survey, Canada, "Texada Island," "Geology of Southern Vancouver Island."

**MacKenzie, J. D.**—Department of Mines, Geological Survey, Canada, "Report on Zymoetz River."

**Minister of Mines**—Hon. Wm. Sloan, Minister of Mines for British Columbia, 1917-1918.

**Robertson, W. F.**—Provincial Mineralogist, British Columbia.

**Whittier, W. H.**—Bureau of Industrial Research, University of Washington. "Bulletin No. 2. An Investigation of the Iron Ore Resources of the Northwest."

**Willmott, A.D.**—Mining Engineer. Report on Iron and Coal Resources of Vancouver and Texada Islands.

Various private reports from Mining Engineers to investigating capitalists have been consulted in addition to the above, and the Central Iron Committee feels that the data presented can be relied upon as the very best to be obtained at this date, February 20th, 1918.

## ORES AND ASSAYS

**Magnetite** ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ ) contains, in a pure state 72.4 per cent iron. Is strongly magnetic, black in color, usually massive and hard in texture, but may occur as a black sand.

**Hematite** ( $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ). When pure contains 70.0 per cent iron. Red or brown in color. Found both hard and soft in structure.

**Limonite or Bog Ore** ( $2\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) When pure, contains 59.8 per cent iron. Dark yellow or brown, and earthy in appearance. Generally found in bogs, and low places. Formed by decomposition of surrounding ferruginous minerals.

**Phosphorus:** Iron ore is classed as "bessemer ore," when it contains more iron than 1,000 times the phosphorus content. A ten per cent margin is allowed in actual practice, so that .04 per cent phosphorus is considered the bessemer limit for an ore containing 50 per cent. iron.

**Sulphur:** Percentage should not be greater than 0.30 or it is considered as detrimental. In modern practice gas from coke production can often be used to roast out surplus sulphur in magnetite ore and produce what is practically a hematite.

**Silica:** Requires extra limestone to flux out when running over about 12 per cent of the ore content.

**Titanium:** Should not run over one per cent, as it is difficult to fuse, and produces a slag which is hard to handle.

**Assays:** A few general assays are submitted in order to indicate the average quality of the ores from the various districts.

Average samples of magnetite from the second level-Texada Island workings:

	Lindeman's Sample	McConnell's Sample
Iron .....	64.53 per cent.	63.57 per cent.
Sulphur .....	0.303 per cent.	0.403 per cent.
Phosphorus.....	Not determined	0.024 per cent.
Insoluble matter .....	"	0.46 per cent.

Lindeman reports a sample from Head Bay, Noctka Sound, that assayed:

Iron .....	66.17
Sulphur .....	0.017
Phosphorus .....	0.016
Silica .....	6.10

An average sample of the ore taken along the tunnel, on the Bugaboo Creek Group, gave the following analysis:

Insoluble matter .....	8.88
Iron .....	58.30
Sulphur .....	2.75
Phosphorus .....	0

A sample taken by Carmichael from the "Conqueror" Group, assayed:

Iron .....	69.2
Silica .....	2.7
Sulphur .....	0.5

A sample reported by Carmichael from the dump at the portal of the adit, Sarita, assayed:

Iron .....	63.7
Sulphur .....	0.3
Phosphorus .....	Trace
Silica .....	3.85

### GENERAL STATEMENTS.

"The total tonnage of the Vancouver Island deposits is undoubtedly large and probably approaches that of all other iron ore reserves in British Columbia which are near enough to the Coast to be of any immediate importance as a source of ore for a blast furnace located on tide water."—WHITTIER. (p. 67).

"The best known sources of iron ore for the Northwestern United States are Texada Island and the West side of Vancouver Island, B. C., especially near Barclay Sound."—LEITH.

"It is a well known fact that there are no good iron ores on the Pacific Coast south of British Columbia. The several iron industries which have attempted to establish themselves on the West Coast have invariably looked to British Columbia for iron ore. The Irondale Furnace at Port Townsend, mentioned above, as being the largest consumer, has shown that these ores can be successfully smelted, and that satisfactory steel can be made from them.

"The Battleship 'Nebraska', constructed at Seattle, was partly manufactured from Irondale pig—made from Texada iron ore."—WILLMOTT.

"Pig iron can be produced on the Pacific Coast for several dollars less (per ton) than eastern iron can be delivered in the Coast cities."—WHITTIER.

"The better properties on the Coast should be capable of supplying a tonnage sufficient for a local iron industry."—LINDEMAN.

"There can be little doubt that sufficiently large bodies of ore can be found convenient to transportation, to supply large furnaces. A sample of this ore was submitted to Mr. Watson, of the Soo Furnace, who stated that it was suitable for the Bessemer process, and could probably be used without previous roasting."—WILLMOTT.

"Outside of areas mentioned (Vancouver and Texada Islands), there are a number of known magnetic iron deposits, which have not been officially examined and consequently are not included in the official estimate. Such deposits are known to exist on Porcher and Pitt Islands, Seymour Inlet, etc. There are also several large deposits on Queen Charlotte Islands.

It is probably more or less assured that a full investigation of these Northern properties would show up as much ore as is now estimated for Vancouver and Texada Islands, thus doubling the probable ore supply."—MINISTER OF MINES.

## THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS

In any consideration of the iron ore tonnage of Vancouver Island, and the Coast Districts, it must be remembered that only those sections are mentioned, which have been examined by leading authorities. Much yet remains to be done in the way of exploration, to say nothing of development, and many quite important sections of the known iron deposits have not been discussed by the Committee on Data, owing to the lack of adequate official information. This will account for the lack of mention of many iron deposits of merit, which are locally well known.

Development work, and especially the use of the diamond drill, will no doubt increase the known tonnage many times.

For instance, the Ladysmith Local Committee on Data are now working on information regarding a deposit of Hematite ore which has just been reported a mile or two from that city. It is hoped that as a result of their investigations other valuable factors will be added to the iron production possibilities of Vancouver Island.

The differences in the estimates of tonnage given by the several authorities is often to be accounted for by the varying amounts of time and attention given to each section by the investigator.

### Texada Island:

"I give the Texada Island Iron tonnage at 4,521,200 tons."—McCONNELL.

"Think this estimate could very reasonably be increased to between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 tons."—WHITTIER.

"Estimate the Iron Ore deposits of Texada Island at 30,000,000 tons of ore of commercial grade, with a considerably larger amount of low grade and deep ore."—HAYES.

"Makes no attempt to estimate the actual tonnage of iron at Texada, but states that there is every probability of large quantities of merchantable magnetite being found."—LINDEMAN. (p. 23.)

Quotes McConnell, especially that portion of the report which states that the tonnage given may be multiplied several times before the iron resources of the District are exhausted.—BREWER. (Op. 35).

"Calls attention to the shipment of 20,000 tons of iron ore from Texada Island to Irondale, Wash. Makes no estimate of the tonnage and quotes McConnell as authority for the statement that the abundance of the ores, their high grade in iron, and easy accessibility must make them extremely valuable in the event of an iron industry being established on the Coast.—WILLMOTT

"In addition to the ores indicated in the figures previously given, there is a reasonable expectation of a far greater amount of possible ore, which, under intelligent development, is reasonably certain to add materially to the amount now considered available."—MINISTER OF MINES.

## WEST COAST, VANCOUVER ISLAND

### Gordon River District:

"On the Godman Iron properties, I estimate 700,000 tons in sight, with a probable tonnage of 8,000,000. On the Bently Group 5,200,000 tons, with possibly three times this amount. It seems probable to me that 15,000,000 tons of iron ore can be got in this district, and perhaps much more."—WILLMOTT.

"On the Gordon River and its tributary, the Bugaboo, are developed large bodies of magnetite."—CLAIP.

"On the Bugaboo Creek claims; the writer estimates the actual tonnage at 94,000, and allows 50 per cent additional, possible ore. On the Conqueror Group 16,000 tons actual ore, 230,000 tons of probable ore, and 120,000 tons of possible ore that further development may make available."—BREWER.



### **Sooke District:**

"The deposit is rather of the nature of a stockwork than a true vein, but can be traced for some distance in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction, and, in places, shows from 10 to 20 feet of nearly pure ore."—DAWSON.

Carmichael reports assays running from 49 to 72 per cent iron.

### **Sarita River District:**

"The quantity of available magnetite in the Sarita deposits, so far as exposed in the workings, is estimated by the B. C. Provincial Mineralogist, Bulletin 1903, at 53,000 tons, probable or possible ore. In this estimate no allowance has been made for possible continuity to a depth below the adit level.

"An engineer, who has explored this section, reports several strong outcroppings of iron running back for at least ten miles from the points where the development work was done."

"I noted that at a point about 1,000 feet from the bluff, where the big showing is located, is an outcrop 25 feet wide, showing good, clean magnetite."—LINDEMAN (p. 13).

### **Alberni Canal:**

The various authorities agree that there is a considerable tonnage of iron ore in the claims along Alberni Canal—some of these are "Iron Mountain" on Anderson Lake "Defiance" on Uchuckksit Harbor, "Darby and Joan," at Smith's Landing; and at Copper Island.

"It is probable, therefore, that the Barclay Sound deposits will be quite important when an Iron and Steel industry is established in the Northwest."—WHITTIER.

### **Sechart:**

"Crown Prince" claim—"Of actual ore the tonnage may be estimated at 75,000 tons, while the tonnage of possible ore may be placed at an additional 200,000 tons. The "Bald Eagle" and "Lord of the Isles" claims also show strong croppings of magnetite ore."—BREWER.

"The prospects may be said to be such as to warrant further investigation"—LINDEMAN.

"The magnetite deposits in this vicinity have been traced around into Effingham Inlet, a distance of some miles."—VARIOUS ENGINEERS.

### **Head Bay—Nootka Sound District:**

"The 'Glengarry' and 'Stormont' claims contain 250,000 tons of actual ore available for quarrying, with an additional 250,000 tons of probable ore, and 750,000 tons of possible ore. The deposits are very favorably situated to insure mining and transportation at a minimum cost. On the 'Fido' claim there are 50,000 tons of probable ore, and 200,000 tons of possible ore."—BREWER.

### **Upper Quinsam Lake:**

"There is no question but that a very large quantity of magnetite can be quarried for immediate shipment. I place the possible ore at 5,000,000 tons."—BREWER.

"Magnetite outcrops in a bluff 80 feet high. Part of the face of the bluff has been stripped for 53 feet in width, showing solid magnetite without having uncovered the contact with the country rock. The tunnel is 60 feet long, entirely in magnetite."—LINDEMAN. (p. 20).

"I was informed by a reputable Mining Engineer that these deposits gave promise of being the largest of their kind in the Northwest—not excluding the Texada deposits—and this property may prove one of the most important iron properties in the Northwest."—WHITTIER. (p. 67).

### **Klaanch River:**

Lindeman prepared a magnetic survey and map of this section, and concludes his report by saying: "So far as surface indications go the claims may be said to be one of the best iron prospects on Vancouver Island, and well worth further development."

**Upper Campbell Lake:** "The conclusions to be drawn from the evidence of the ore exposures are that there are large continuous ore bodies in sight, but the full extent must be made more evident."—CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON.

## BOG IRON AND HEMATITE

Kitchener, B. C.—These deposits consist of a series of parallel veins of Hematite iron ore, running continuously for a distance of ten miles.

Occurs in a large body of quartzite, approximately 500 feet in width. 50 claims located. Several veins of solid iron 6 feet wide, assay 67.3 Fe.

General assays metallic iron 67.4, silica 1.7, sulphur .16, phosphorus .03.

Some veins have been uncovered at depths showing a difference of 1,200 feet in elevation and they maintain their uniformity at these points.

Average assay	Fe.	Sulph.	Phos.
Lake Superior ores .....	60	.010	.06
New Foundland .....	55	.012	.600
Kitchener .....	67.4	.15	.03

### Quatsino District:

"Bog Iron, or Limonite occurs at a point about one mile west from Coal Harbor, on the West Arm of Quatsino Sound, and also at a point two miles back from West Arm, and several miles farther west."—WHITTIER.

The Western Steel Corporation estimate a tonnage of 10,000,000 tons of Bog Iron ore on their various claims in this vicinity.

"The Ore is of such quality as to make a very desirable material to mix with the Magnetite of Southern Vancouver Island and Texada Island."—WHITTIER.

### Nanaimo District:

"A deposit of Hematite on a branch of Klinaklini River, and therefore in the Nanaimo Mining Division, was staked a few years ago. In the development work the most westerly cut shows a width of 6 feet of nearly solid Hematite."—BREWER.

### Skeena District:

"The Bog Iron Ore property, owned by the North Pacific Iron Mines, Ltd., of

Prince Rupert, is situated on Limonite Creek, a tributary of Zymoetz River, in the Skeena district. The property consists of 9 claims. 562,500 tons of ore may be considered as almost certainly proven; twice that as probable and perhaps the amount is considerably larger. The ore runs from 50.6 per cent to 56.01 per cent metallic iron, with phosphorus either nil or only a trace."—MacKENZIE.

## COAL AND COKE

"The Coal fields of Nanaimo and Cumberland produce a first class bituminous coal of about the following average analysis, from which the various seams differ but slightly:

	Per Cent.
Moisture .....	1.5
Vol. Comb. matter .....	35.0
Fixed Carbon .....	56.0
Ash .....	7.0
Sulphur .....	0.5
	100.0

"The coals of the Nanaimo field have never been made into coke commercially, and it is thought that there would be difficulty in coking them in the bee-hive oven, but recent experiments by the Granby Company have shown that they can be coked in the by-product oven. So satisfied is the Granby Company of this that the Company is now opening up a Colliery in this field to yield a coke supply for its Anyox Smelter.

"Analysis of coke from this field ought to show a better coke, lower in ash and sulphur even than that of the Cumberland field.

"The Cumberland field supplies a coking coal, which for 25 years at least has been coked in the ordinary bee-hive oven of which the plant at Comox contains 200 ovens.

Up to the present time the market for the coke has been for foundry cupola furnaces and for Copper smelting cupolas, which did not demand a coke of high quality nor of



great structural strength consequently; formerly no very serious attempt was made commercially to make a coke suitable for iron blast furnace work.

"The matter has, however, recently been receiving attention from the Colliery management, and the coke recently made from the Lower Seam, Cumberland, shows from 1 to 1.3 per cent. Sulphur, 10.30 per cent. Ash, and has heat value of 13,360 B.T.U."—MINISTER OF MINES.

"The east coast of Vancouver Island has a good supply of coal. The Provincial Mineralogist of British Columbia reports the coke to contain from 15 to 16 per cent Ash, but thinks that by a more careful separating of the Shale from the coal, the Ash could be reduced to about 12 per cent with very low phosphorus contents."—LINDEMAN.

#### FLUXES.

"Large deposits of Limestone of very good quality exist on Texada and Vancouver Islands, British Columbia."—WHITTIER.

"The Limestones abundantly met with on the Coast are exceptionally pure and free from deleterious elements, and offer, therefore, a good flux. The supply may be said to be practically unlimited."—LINDEMAN.

"The question of Limestone fluxes can be satisfactorily disposed of in a few words.

"Limestones accompany the iron ore deposits and an adequate supply could be obtained with or adjacent to the iron ores.

"Beds of almost theoretically pure limestone running over 98 per cent carbonate of lime, with no deleterious ingredients, are abundant on the salt water's edge and adjacent to Vancouver or Victoria.

"Three large deposits of very pure limestone, practically marble, occur on Texada Island, right on the water's edge."—MINISTER OF MINES.

#### Summary of the Cost of Producing One Long Ton of Pig Iron in the Northwest:

Iron Ore, 2 tons at \$2.50 per ton, per long ton pig iron.....	\$ 5.00
Coke, 1.25 tons at \$5.00 short ton, per long ton pig iron .....	7.00
Limestone, 1,200 pounds at \$1.00 long ton, per long ton pig iron.....	.54
Maintenance .....	.23
General expense and small items.....	.71
*Labor .....	1.50
Total cost .....	<u>\$15.00</u>

(WHITTIER (p. 112).

Assuming a furnace capacity of 150 tons per 24 hours, and a production of two tons of pig iron per man employed at \$3.50 per day, the cost of labor will be \$1.75 per ton pig iron. The following is the approximate cost, based on the above figures:

Ore (magnetite, roasted, 55 per cent iron), 1.8 tons at \$2.50 per ton.....	\$ 4.50
Coke 1.25 tons at \$6 per ton.....	7.50
Lime .....	0.50
*Labor at \$3.50 per day.....	1.75
Steam raising for blowing engine.....	0.15
Miscellaneous materials, repairs, maintenance, general expenses, and amortization (machinery and buildings) say .....	1.60
Total .....	<u>\$16.00</u>

LINDEMAN (p. 25).

\*Present labor conditions on the Pacific Coast would no doubt increase the general cost of production by from ten to fifteen per cent.

### MARKET FIELD

Figures were obtained from prominent Seattle foundry and steel men from which the writer was able to estimate a total present consumption of pig iron within the western market field of 250,000 to 300,000 tons per year.

C. C. Jones, in his article on "The Pacific Coast Iron Situation" in September, 1915, gives 100,000 tons as the estimated yearly consumption on the Pacific Coast at that time, "according to one of the leading buyers of iron and steel." The consumption has evidently more than doubled since that time. Jones gives estimate of consumption on the Pacific Coast in 1915 as follows:

	Tons
Pig Iron .....	100,000
Reinforcing Steel for Concrete Buildings .....	30,000
Sheets .....	136,000

Plates .....	217,000
Corrugated .....	15,000
Bar .....	175,000
Structural .....	250,000
Total .....	923,000

These figures are undoubtedly much larger at the present time, and particularly those covering sheets and plates, on account of the phenomenal growth of the shipbuilding industry which the Northwest is now experiencing.

Considering these facts, it is the writer's opinion that the market is even now ample to support an iron and steel plant consisting of a blast furnace of 450 to 500 tons per day capacity, together with the refining and rolling equipment necessary to manufacture the pig iron into the various merchant forms and shapes.

WHITTIER (p. 118-19).

## Seattle Hardware Co.

SEATTLE, WASH.

February 23, 1918

Mr. T. J. Goodlake, Sec'y  
General Iron Committee  
1107 Langley Street  
Victoria, B. C.

Dear Mr. Goodlake:

Replying to yours of the 20th instant, would say that the Steel Bars which were rolled at Irondale in 1910 and 1911, were made under many disadvantages. The mill was second-hand, and lacking in many ways up-to-date perfection, but the Steel Bars which they turned out were soft and tough and gave universal satisfaction to the user, and were regarded by him as the equal in material to any on the market.

The plant was run for a few months only, and I believe never attained the perfection which a longer run would have permitted. Their product would suggest that the base metal from which they rolled Steel Bars was of excellent quality. I am not informed as to the quantity they produced, but it was not large.

Yours truly,

(Signed) CHAS. M. CURTIS

## **GOVERNMENT SHOULD HELP OUT THE STEEL INDUSTRY.**

(Reprinted from The Wall Street Journal, November 26, 1917.)

The success of the Allies over Germany depends upon the steel industry. The enemy is in control of 75 per cent. of the steel industry of France, and all that of Belgium. Russia is out of the contest for the time being at least. Great Britain cannot be depended on for more than 10,000,000 tons of steel annually.

Therefore the steel industry of the United States, with a capacity for turning out 45,000,000 tons of steel ingots annually, must supply the Allies with more than 65 per cent. of all steel required for shells, guns, motor trucks, battle planes, armor, and other material necessary for the successful conduct of the war.

Each ton of product lost at this time is a misfortune and a step backward on the road to ultimate victory. Without the aid of the steel industry of the United States it would not be long before Germany would be able to sweep everything before it. Great Britain with its 10,000,000 tons of steel annually, and France with its comparatively small output would be defenseless within a few months.

In view of all this, why is it that the steel production of this country is permitted to shrink as it has been doing for sometime past? Conditions at the moment are deplorable. Unless the mills and furnaces obtain sufficient cars and locomotives to haul coke, ore, coal and finished materials, a serious steel shortage is inevitable.

As it is many mills and furnaces have suspended operations and others are about to follow. The steel companies are doing their utmost to maintain output at the highest level possible, but it is getting more and more difficult to cope with labor and transportation.

The railroads, owing to their poor financial condition, have not kept pace with the growth of the steel industry. The steel mills need thousands of additional cars and the only way the railroads will be able to supply them will be through Government assistance. The Iron Age remarks:

"The condition on the railroads is such that an early decision is imperative whether greater transportation facilities shall be provided or less freight shall be required to be moved. The railroads have been handling a record volume of freight, yet have not been able to meet the demands upon them, and congestion has so increased in recent weeks that a remedy must be found, particularly as the first blasts of winter will effect their usual slowing down in Railroad operations."

## FORMATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE CENTRAL IRON COMMITTEE OF VANCOUVER ISLAND

Consideration of the iron resources of Vancouver Island and adjacent islands had been taken up from time to time in the past, but without resulting in any tangible development when, on January 3rd, 1918, the programme committee of The Rotary Club of Victoria, introduced the subject at a regular club luncheon and Rotarian T. O. Mackay, answered a series of questions with reference to the subject.

As a result of the foregoing there was a rather remarkable showing of general interest, and it became evident that the moment, with respect to the matter of iron and steel development, was what might be fairly described as "psychological." A resolution was passed calling on Rotarian Gordon Jameson, as chairman of the programme committee, to arrange for two successive luncheons to be devoted wholly to a discussion of the iron and associated resources of Vancouver Island.

Two luncheons were held, duly, and then, a third, so great was the interest aroused. At the first luncheon Rotarian R. R. Neild, of the Victoria Machinery Depot, delivered a striking address on the possibilities in the development of a steel industry on the Pacific Coast of Canada. This luncheon was held on January 10th. On January 17th, following a general discussion, Rotarian Mayor A. E. Todd, offered a resolution calling for the development of the iron resources of the Island, as a result of which a committee of Rotarians was appointed to take up the matter of iron and steel development, and Mr. Neild was made chairman. The third luncheon was held on January 24th, and was thrown open for suggestions.

On February 8th the Rotary Iron Committee called a meeting, which was to have been held in the offices of the Victoria & Island Development Association, and to which representatives of local public bodies, and of all Island municipalities were invited. The response to the invitation was so general that it became necessary to adjourn the meeting to a committee room in Belmont House, kindly loaned by Mr. C. T. Cross, for want of room at the Development Association's offices.

It became evident to the Rotary Committee at this meeting that the question was one of general interest and that for the final good, it would be desirable to enlarge the committee, making it general and not representative of any distinct organization. Resolutions embodying this policy were submitted and carried.

Out of this meeting grew the Central Iron Committee, of Vancouver Island, with Mr. R. R. Neild as chairman; Mr. C. T. Cross, as Treasurer, and Mr. T. J. Goodlake and Mr. C. L. Armstrong as co-secretaries. A finance committee was appointed

and, as the committee comprised representatives of every community on Vancouver Island, a plan for obtaining the necessary financial support was adopted.

On February 9th a large deputation from the Committee waited on the Hon. William Sloan, Minister of Mines for the Province of British Columbia, and represented to him the necessity for action on the part of the Provincial Government. A resolution which had been drafted by Mr. Frank Higgins, of Victoria, calling upon the Provincial Government to pass enabling and remedial legislation for the protection of the ore deposits of the Province, was laid before the minister.

On Tuesday, February 12th, Mr. J. F. Bledsoe, M.E., of Alberni, chairman of the deputation which waited on the Minister of Mines, presented the report of the meeting and the committee proceeded to pass a programme. The finance committee suggested that Victoria be asked to contribute \$1,000.00 to the general expenses of the Central Committee, Nanaimo \$250.00, and each of the other communities \$150.00. This was adopted. Private contributions were also to be requested.

It was decided that a strong and representative delegation should be despatched to Ottawa, to lay before the Dominion Government the desirability of immediate action on their part, looking to the development of the latent iron resources of Vancouver Island and the Province generally, and that a series of public meetings should be held throughout the Island for the purpose of enlisting and crystalizing the support of the public.

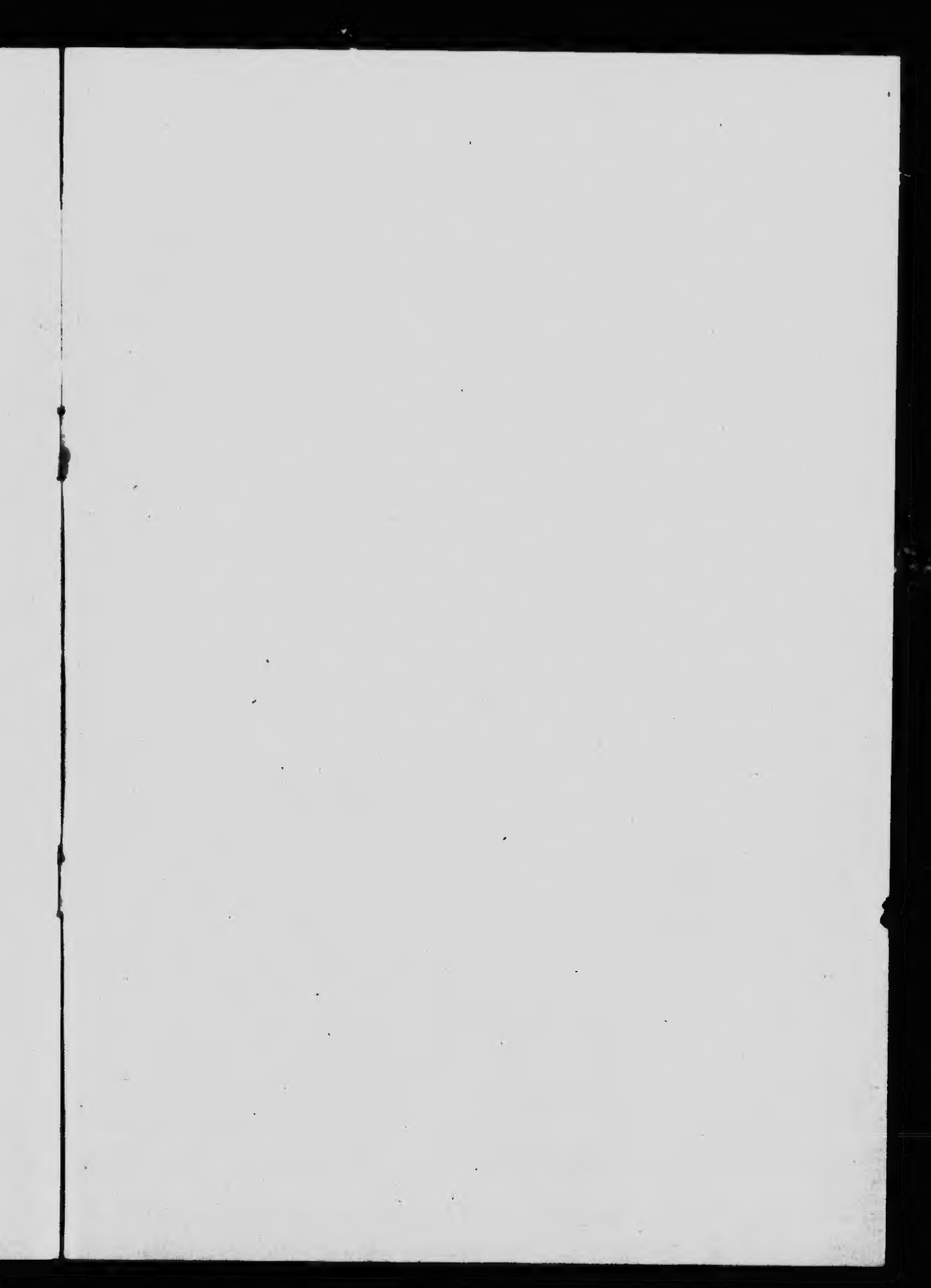
As a result of the fact that no concise, complete statement of the actual resources in iron, etc., of the Province was known to exist, the committee appointed a sub-committee under Mr. J. F. Bledsoe, M.E., to collect and analyze all existing authentic data and to present it in printed form for general consumption.

Voting on the delegation which would proceed to Ottawa was carried out on a plan adopted by the Central Committee, which allowed each of the communities represented one vote for every \$50.00 contributed, excepting Victoria, which was allowed one vote for every \$100.00 contributed. The election resulted in the selection of the following: Mayor A. E. Todd, Mr. R. R. Neild, and Mr. Frank Higgins, of Victoria; Mr. J. F. Bledsoe, of the West Coast, and Mr. H. S. Fleming, of the Courtenay-Cumberland section.

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Any further information desired regarding the iron and steel production possibilities may be obtained by addressing the Honorary Secretary, Central Iron Committee, 904 Government Street, Victoria, B. C.





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